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TO THE
WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Report of
the Medical Officer of Health
for 1939.

Twyford,
October, 1940.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1939. The report is curtailed as directed by the Ministry of Health, but all records have been kept for further reference if required.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant.

G.A.E. ROBERTS, D.P.H.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area.....	110,436 acres.
Population.....	(a) 33,750
	(b) 34,560.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939)	9,860.
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1939	£237,965
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£ 960

The social conditions have been affected owing to the war. There have been extensions of factories, formation of military camps, enlistment of men for the services, and of both sexes for war work of various kinds. A large A.R.P. organisation has been formed, and a number of evacuees have come into the district.

Vital Statistics.

		I.M.			B.R.		
		Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Live	(Legitimate.....	538	285	253	527	279	248
Births	(Illegitimate.....	24	14	10	23	13	10
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population		16.9					
Still	(Legitimate	20	9	11			
Births	(Illegitimate.....	1	1	0			
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.....		35.0					

	Total	M	F
Deaths.....	376	178	198
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.....	10.9		

Deaths from puerperal causes:-

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis.....	0	0
No. 30 Other puerperal causes...	5	8.6
Total.....	5	8.6

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.-

All infants per 1,000 live births.....	35.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	35.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	41.7

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....	61
" " Measles " "	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages).....	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age),	1

The following table shows the comparison of some of the above figures compared with those for the whole of England and Wales:-

	Per 1,000 Population		Per 1,000 Live Births.
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality
England and Wales	15.0	12.1	50.0
Winchester Rural District	16.9	10.9	35.6

The year was a satisfactory one from a Public Health point of view. The death rate and infant mortality were low, as also the incidence of infectious disease.

Causes of Death								Males	Females.
All Causes								178	198
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
2.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8
10.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
12.	Genreal Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
13.	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	37
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	14
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	59
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	8
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	5
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
26.	Other diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7
29.	Puerperal Sepis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	5
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	7
32.	Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
34.	Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	5
35.	Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	6
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
37.	Diarrhoea (2 years and over)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:-

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	10
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-

* Poliomyelitis included in No.35 1

The deaths in the above table include residents who died outside and exclude non-residents who died within the district.

In the above figures the population is given by the Registrar General at (a) for calculations of Birth rates and (b) for Death rates or incidence of notifiable disease. Also two forms for live births (B.R.) for calculatory Birth rates and (I.M.) for Infants and Maternal Mortalities.

Non civilian deaths registered during the last quarter are excluded.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Inspection of the District.

All parts of the area have been frequently visited and inspected by me.

Water.

The public supplies remain the same and samples of water from these and private wells have been collected and analysed. There has been no shortage, and no illness has been traced to water.

Sewerage and Drainage.

The public systems remain the same and have worked satisfactorily.

West End. - This Scheme, a tender for which has been accepted had to be postponed owing to the war. There have been difficulties in the Thornhill portion of this parish due to overflowing cesspools and I am afraid this will continue during wet weather.

Alresford - The public sewer for this parish was commenced at the end of the year and satisfactory progress is being maintained at the present time.

Rivers and Streams.

There has been no evidence of any serious pollution.

Housing.

New cottages were completed in the under-mentioned parishes during the year:-

Easton	3	Bishop's Sutton	5
Sparsholt	2	Pound Lane	8
Netley	14	Otterbourne	2

No demolition orders were made under Sec 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936, and no cases of overcrowding under Part IV of the Act have occurred.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The following table gives particulars of cases of infectious disease notified, excluding Tuberculosis, for which a separate table is given:-

					Notified	Removed to Hospital	Deaths.
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	52	24	-
	Diphtheria	...	...	...	23	22	-
*	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	-	7
	Erysipelas	...	...	...	8	-	-
	Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	7	-	-
	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	-	-	-
	Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	4	2	1
+	Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	1	1	-

* Only certain forms of pneumonia are notifiable, but the deaths are from all forms.

+ Military man home on leave.

Scarlet Fever.

There was no serious outbreak. The 52 cases occurred in 16 different villages at various times of the year.

Diphtheria.

Of the 23 cases notified, 3 occurred in the Parish of Hedge End the rest were scattered about in 9 other villages at various times. Only one of the cases had been immunised. Anti-Toxin is supplied free by this Council and was administered in all cases.

Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria is offered free to children up to 5 years of age, but only 8 children were treated.

Infantile Paralysis.

Of the 4 cases notified, 2 occurred in the Parish of Hound and were treated at home making good recovery.

Two cases occurred in West End, one child was admitted to the Southampton Isolation Hospital where it died after a few days. The second case was an adult who recovered after treatment in the same Hospital.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Only one case was brought to my notice, an Officer who was home on leave and who was ill when he arrived here. He was admitted to the Victoria Isolation Hospital and made a good recovery.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases became notifiable in October, but only two of the former and one of the latter were notified.

Tuberculosis.

The following table refers to new cases and mortality during the year:-

New Cases				Deaths			
Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
10	6	5	2	9	8	3	1

All cases of Tuberculosis are I believe notified to me. There has been no extensive incidence of, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (With Mechanical Power)	52	-	-
Factories (Without Mechanical Power)	150	5	-
Other Premises, under the Act (Including works of building and engine ering constructions but not including outworkers' premises.)	20	2	-
Total	222	7	-

G.A.E. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1940.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1939.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to report briefly the year's work of sanitary administration as shown in the routine inspections carried out in the district during the year which are tabulated below:-

Statute	Nature of Visit	No of Inspections	Samples taken.
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.	(a) Inspections for reconstructions, alterations, and cleanliness. (b) Number of alterations and improvements to dairy premises	429 6	
Factories Act, 1937.	Routine Inspection of premises Defects and want of cleanliness remedied.	222 12	
Shops Act, 1934.	Routine Inspection of Premises	101	
Petroleum Act, 1928.	Examination of sites of premises proposed to be used for the storage of Petrol	25	
Meat Regulations, 1924 P.H. Act, 1936.	Inspection of Slaughtherhouses) Knackers' Yards) Butchers' Shops.) Food Stores.)	222	
Housing Act, 1936. Part II	(a) Inspection of Cottages. (b) Re-inspection of Cottages.	200 1202	
P.H. Act, 1936	(a) Drainage Survey Inspections (b) Alteration, Inspection and testing of drains (c) Nuisances found and remedied (d) Re-inspection of premises (e) Water Supply Inspections (f) Smoke Observations	40 6 50 738 25 -	
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Acts.	Disinfection of Premises	156	
Interviews		190	
	Samples of Well-water examined Number reported polluted	24 5	
Total		3648	5

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK HURST, M.S.I.A.

